

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 03032 211634Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 EB-08 DLOS-09 L-03 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6038
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
USMISSION USNATO

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BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEC

COPENHAGEN FOR FISHERIES ATTACHE

PARIS FOR USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, NO, PINT
SUBJECT: SCANT RESULTS FROM NORWEGIAN/SOVIET FISHERIES TALKS

REF: A) OSLO A-36, B) OSLO 2782

1. THE NORWEGIAN-SOVIET FISHERIES COMMISSION LED BY MINISTERS
OF FISHERIES EIVIND BOLLE AND ALEXANDER ISHKOV MET IN MOSCOW
JUNE 12-16. THE COMMISSION AGREED TO EXTEND THE QUOTE GREY
ZONE UNQUOTE AGREEMENT BY ONE YEAR FROM JULY 1. HOWEVER, NO
AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF AN EVENTUAL CAPELIN
QUOTA IN THE BARENTS SEA AND CONSEQUENTLY NO TOTAL QUOTA
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PAGE 02 OSLO 03032 211634Z

WAS STIPULATED FOR 1978. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE FISHERIES
COMMISSION IS SCHEDULED IN LATE OCTOBER.

2. WE HAVE LEARNED THAT THE NORWEGIAN DELEGATION SOUGHT A
75/25 SPLIT OF ANY CAPELIN QUOTA IN FAVOR OF NORWEGIAN FISHERMEN
WHILE THE SOVIETS WANTED A 50/50 DISTRIBUTION.
THE NORWEGIAN DELEGATION COULD HAVE ACCEPTED THE SOVIET

PROPOSAL PROVIDED THE SOVIETS RELINQUISHED THEIR 40,000 METRIC TON QUOTA IN NORWEGIAN WATERS. IN THE ABSENCE OF AN AGREEMENT, THE SOVIETS AGREED NOT TO START FISHING FOR CAPELIN UNTIL AUGUST 15 AND NOT TO CATCH CAPELIN IN AREAS WHERE 15 PERCENT OR MORE OF THE CATCH CONSISTS OF FISH UNDER 11 CENTIMETERS IN LENGTH.

3. BOLLE AND ISHKOV BRIEFLY DISCUSSED THE NORWEGIAN FISHERIES PROTECTION ZONE AROUND SVALBARD, BUT WITHOUT RESULT. ISHKOV AGAIN PROTESTED NORWAY'S REFUSAL TO CONSULT IN ADVANCE; HOWEVER HE DID NOT EXPLICITLY REJECT THE NEW REGIME. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS BELIEVE THE SOVIETS HAVE ACCEPTED (TACITLY) THE TRAWL-FREE ZONES AROUND BEAR ISLAND AND OFF SVALBARD'S WEST COAST. NO PROGRESS WAS MADE ON THE ISSUE OF SOVIET REPORTING OF CATCHES IN THE FISHERIES PROTECTION ZONE.
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